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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 SANTIAGO 002323

SIPDIS

STATE FOR WHA/BSC

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/14/2015

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [CI](#)

SUBJECT: CHILE'S ELECTIONS: BACHELET SLIP IN POLLS
INCREASINGLY POSSIBLE

REF: A. SANTIAGO 1975

[1](#)B. SANTIAGO 01342

[1](#)C. SANTIAGO 01175 AND PREVIOUS

Classified By: Ambassador Craig A. Kelly. Reasons: 1.4 (b and d).

[1](#)1. (C) Summary: Concertacion presidential candidate Michelle Bachelet's recent slip in the polls to 40 percent increases the likelihood that r
The Poll

[1](#)2. (U) One of Chile's conservative leading dailies, "El Mercurio," released on November 13 the results of a recent poll conducted in Chile's
--If elections were held today, 40.2 percent said they would vote for Bachelet, 20.5 for Lavin, 19.7 percent for Pinera, and 5.4 percent for Hi
--In a Bachelet vs. Lavin run-off, 45.1 percent said they would vote for Bachelet and 29.1 percent for Lavin. Undecideds numbered 25.8 percent.
--In a Bachelet vs. Pinera run-off, 46.9 percent said they would vote for Bachelet and 31.8 percent for Pinera. Undecideds numbered 21.3 percen
Compared with the results of the same poll taken in June, Bachelet and Lavin dropped two and 2.6 points, respectively. In contrast, Pinera gain

The Dynamic

[1](#)3. (C) For the first time, Lavin's and Pinera's combined numbers equal those of Bachelet's. "Together We Can" coalition leader Tomas Hirsch

[1](#)4. (C) Some of the same observers who concluded in early September that the presidential race was over are rethinking their positions in light

Comment

[1](#)5. (C) As reported previously (reftels), Bachelet's numbers and charisma assure her a strong showing on December 11. However, there is no guar
KELLY